

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

1. Please replace the paragraph on page 6 that begins with "The client nodes 14 may be associated with ..." with the following paragraph:

The client nodes 14 may be associated with different energy consumers, such as individual residences. The client nodes 14 may include devices that operate and consume energy, such as an HVAC unit 22. The client nodes 14 may also include the thermostat device 24 connected with the HVAC unit 22 for controlling the operation of the HVAC unit 22. The thermostat device 24 may be controlled remotely, for example by the server 12, via modem 28 or other similar communications device, such as by transmitting a signal over the Internet 16 to alter the offset temperature of the thermostat device 24 and thereby control the operation of the HVAC unit 22 remotely. Such two-way Internet control is described in more detail in Assignee's co-pending patent application, Serial No. 09/677,484, filed September 28, 2000, and herein incorporated by reference.

2. Please replace the paragraph on page 7 that begins with "The thermostat device 24 shown in Fig. 2 may be a 7-day programmable thermostat device 24 ..." with the following paragraph:

The thermostat device 24 shown in Fig. 2 may be a 7-day programmable thermostat device 24 and may permit temperature programming for multiple periods during a day. The thermostat device 24 may include a communications port 25a permitting two-way communications between the thermostat device 24 and a remote system, such as the server 12, via the Internet as described in Assignee's co-pending U.S. Patent Application, Serial No. 09/677,484, filed September 28, 2000, which was incorporated by reference above. The thermostat device 24 may also include a large, backlit LCD display screen 25b for indicating temperature settings and other message information, such as a clean filter indicator 25c for notifying a user of the need to replace the system air filter. The thermostat device 24 may also include a curtailment override button 25d for enabling a user to independently choose to override

participation of a curtailment event. Advantageously, the thermostat device 24 is environmentally friendly and may be operated electronically without requiring a battery.

3. Please replace the paragraph on page 9 that begins with "As shown in Fig. 4, the software application modules may include a curtailment manager ..." with the following paragraph:

As shown in Fig. 4, the software application modules may include a curtailment manager software application module 60 for initiating load curtailment events within the network. A load curtailment event is broadly defined as any event causing reduction in peak energy demand within the system. Creation of curtailment events is described in detail in Assignee's co-pending United States patent application Serial No. 09/675,999, filed September 28, 2000, and herein incorporated by reference. The software application modules may also include a curtailment summary software module 62 for indicating information relating to curtailment event participation, a curtailment history software module 64 for identifying prior curtailment event information, a customer status software module 66 and a customer history software module 68 for indicating customer information. The above modules may be enabled for performing curtailment management operations and will be described in more detail below.